

C1
Cont. implant nearer said trailing end than said insertion end, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

C2 2. (twice amended) The implant of claim 1 in which said body has a substantially frusto-conical configuration along a sufficient portion of said implant that is adapted to contact the adjacent vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine so as to maintain an angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to one another.

14. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 1 in which said bone engaging means includes a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging [said] the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

C3
b2 26. (twice amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across a disc space between two adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human spine, [the] said implant comprising a body having a substantially frusto-conical configuration along [at least] a sufficient portion of said body [oriented toward] that is adapted to contact the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine so as to maintain an angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to one another, said body having an insertion end, a trailing end, and an outer surface including bone engaging means for engaging said implant to the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies, the locus of said bone engaging means forming a substantially cylindrical configuration, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

C4 39. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 26 in which said bone engaging means includes a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

C5
b2 53. (amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across a disc space between the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies, the implant comprising a body having a substantially

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frusto-conical configuration along [at least] a sufficient portion of said body [oriented toward] that is adapted to contact the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine so as to maintain an angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to one another, said body having, an insertion end, a trailing end, and an outer surface including bone engaging means for engaging said implant to the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies, the outer locus of said bone engaging means forming a substantially frusto-conical configuration, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

C7
64.(amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 53 in which said bone engaging means includes a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

Int
D4
C8
77. (amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across a disc space between adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human spine, the implant comprising a body having a substantially cylindrical configuration, an insertion end, a trailing end, and an outer surface including a plurality of posts having a head and a stem, said head being wider than said stem, said posts being spaced apart along at least a portion of said outer surface of said body for engaging said implant to adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of the spine, the locus of said plurality of posts forming a substantially cylindrical configuration, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

C9
86.(amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 77 further comprising a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said body.

Int
C10
98.(amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across a disc space between two adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human spine, the implant comprising a body having a

C10
cont.
substantially frusto-conical configuration along [at least] a sufficient portion of said body [oriented toward] that is adapted to contact the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine so as to maintain an angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to one another, said body having, an insertion end, a trailing end, and an outer surface including bone engaging means for engaging said implant to the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

C11
112.(amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 98 in which said bone engaging means includes a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

124.(amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across the disc space between adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human spine, the implant comprising a body having an insertion end, a trailing end, a length between said ends, and an outer surface bone engaging means for engaging said implant to adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of the spine, the outer locus of said bone engaging means forming a substantially frusto-conical configuration that is along a portion of said bone engaging means [in] adapted to contact [with said]the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine and is along at least a portion of the length of said implant nearer said trailing end than said insertion end, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

C12
125.(amended) The implant of claim 124 in which said body has a substantially frusto-conical configuration along a portion of said outer surface oriented toward said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies.

126.(amended) The implant of claim 124 in which said body has a substantially cylindrical configuration along a portion of said outer surface oriented toward said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies.

C13
129. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 124 in which said bone engaging means includes a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

Am 2/27
C14
131. (twice amended) A spinal fusion implant for insertion across the disc space between adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human spine, said implant comprising a body having an outer locus larger than the space between two adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies to be fused and [having] being formed of a mesh-like material capable of supporting two adjacent vertebral bodies in a spaced apart relationship to each other [on the exterior of said body], said mesh-like material having a plurality of interstices for receiving fusion promoting material and for engaging said implant to said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of the spine, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

C15
135. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 131 further comprising a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

Am 2/28
C16
137. (amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across a disc space between two adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human spine, the implant comprising a body having a first end, a second end, a length between said ends, arcuate portions [oriented toward] adapted to contact the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine, and a distance between said arcuate portions increasing from said first end to said second end along a sufficient portion of the length of said implant so as to maintain angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to one another; and

bone engaging means for engaging said implant to the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies.

C16
cont. 138. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 137 in which said bone engaging means includes second arcuate portions oriented toward the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies.

C17 142. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 139 in which said bone engaging means includes a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

145. (amended) An interbody spinal fusion implant for insertion across a disc space between two adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies of a human spine, the implant comprising:

C18 a body having a first end, a second end, a length between said ends, and an outer surface including bone engaging means for engaging said implant to the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies, said bone engaging means having arcuate portions [oriented toward] adapted to contact the adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies when implanted in the spine, and a distance between said arcuate portions increasing from said first end to said second end along a sufficient portion of the length of said implant so as to maintain an angulation of the adjacent vertebral bodies relative to one another.

C19 149. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 145 in which said bone engaging means includes a plurality of surface roughenings for engaging said adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral bodies and for maintaining said implant in place, said surface roughenings being present on at least a portion of said outer surface of said implant.

C20 153. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 77 in which said body has [a plurality of openings] at least one opening passing therethrough so as to allow bone to grow [through said implant] from [one of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body to [another of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body and through said implant.

154. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 98 in which said body has [a plurality of openings] at least one opening passing therethrough so as to allow bone to grow [through said

implant] from [one of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body to [another of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body and through said implant.

155. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 124 in which said body has [a plurality of openings] at least one opening passing therethrough so as to allow bone to grow [through said implant] from [one of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body to [another of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body and through said implant.

156. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 137 in which said body has [a plurality of openings] at least one opening passing therethrough so as to allow bone to grow [through said implant] from [one of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body to [another of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body and through said implant.

157. (amended) The spinal fusion implant of claim 145 in which said body has [a plurality of openings] at least one opening passing therethrough so as to allow bone to grow [through said implant] from [one of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body to [another of the] adjacent [vertebrae] vertebral body and through said implant.

Please add the following new claims:

--168. The spinal fusion implant of claim 131 in which said mesh-like material comprises a metal.

169. A spinal fusion implant for insertion across the disc space between adjacent vertebral bodies of a human spine, said implant comprising a body having an outer locus larger than the space between two adjacent vertebral bodies to be fused and being formed of a cancellous material capable of supporting two adjacent vertebral bodies in a spaced apart relationship to each other, said cancellous material having a plurality of interstices for holding fusion promoting material, said implant being made of a material appropriate for human implantation.

170. The spinal fusion implant of claim 169 including a plurality of openings in the exterior surface of said implant.